



COVID-19 UPDATE
AND OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

For Residents, Family Members, and Staff
Tuesday, October 6, 2020

COVID-19 Case Update: The non-Health Center staff member who we reported in the September 30, 2020 UPDATE as having tested positive for COVID-19 was retested. The result of this second COVID-19 test was non-detect (negative). Residents who had been in close contact with this staff member have been notified of this second test result.

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services does not disqualify a positive viral test result if a second test has a non-detect result. Consequently, The Pines must continue to adhere to the state-mandated 14-day “no indoor visitation” policy. Exceptions for indoor visitations can be made solely for end of life circumstances or compassionate care reasons as prescribed by a physician. At this time, outdoor visitations with a Health Center resident can be arranged.

Cumulative Active COVID-19 Cases at The Pines as of: 10/6/20

No cases*

*Please see note above explaining why Health Center indoor visitations cannot take place at this time.

Construction Corner

The following report from Rodgers’ Builders provides detailed information regarding next week’s work on the rebuilding project: [Rodgers](#). Here are some highlights:

- **New Nursing Wing:** casework continues and carpeting of corridors
- **Villa 1:** installation of wood trim continues
- **Villa 2:** flooring and trim/countertop installation continues

- **Phase 4/5 Dining:** electrical rough-in continues
- **New Davidson Room:** prime painting
- **Fitness Center:** insulating walls
- **Photos** (from left): new Nursing Wing sunrooms; insulating exterior wall of expanded Fitness Room; new Davidson Room



Beauty Salon Services

Resident Margaret Dewhirst and hairstylist Bo Hanna Lee, permitted us to share the following photos of a recent hair styling appointment in Mrs. Dewhirst's residence. Eighteen Independent Living residents recently had hair cut appointments with Ms. Lee. This week, residents in the Health Center (Nursing, Purcell and Assisted Living wings) are receiving beauty/barber services.



Library Re-opening

We are excited, and expect you are too, that it is almost time to open the new library website! The website will allow you to make up to 3 selections which will be filled by library staff and placed on a table outside the door for pick-up on Mondays and Fridays. Read the instructions and the Q&A [here](#).

Aquesta Bank

We are pleased to announce that Aquesta Bank, which is headquartered nearby in Cornelius, has signed a lease for a new branch at The Pines. We do not yet know when this new branch of Aquesta will be opening, but we will certainly keep residents apprised of the plans. Aquesta has grown from its original branch in North Mecklenburg County to eight branches extending from greater Charlotte to Wilmington.

Independent Living Resident Survey

Thank you to all 206 residents who have so far participated - online or by telephone - in the independent living resident survey. Next week, after the last submissions are tabulated, we expect to receive compiled results from Holleran, the outside survey company. Management will then quickly work with Holleran to understand the results prior to sharing them with residents. Collecting valid information from residents regarding their views was a primary reason for the survey. We hope to use this information constructively, allowing important community decisions to be made in a way that balances the needs of all residents in independent living settings.

Schramm Health Center Visitations

Even though The Pines is no longer on the NC DHHS Congregate Living Outbreak Report, we are not yet able to offer routine indoor visitations for residents in the Health Center as permitted in DHHS Secretarial Order No. 6 for several reasons. Pursuant to NC DHHS guidance, The Pines may not offer routine indoor visitation for 14 days after a resident who lives in the Health Center, or an employee who works with Health Center residents, last tested positive for COVID-19. Since a Pines employee tested positive for COVID-19 on September 28, The Pines may not offer routine indoor visitation until October 12, provided there are no additional positive COVID-19 test results. Second, management is moving quickly to establish a protocol for such indoor visitations that meets regulatory requirements and is sustainable. Indoor visitations involving residents from any Health Center setting will occur in the existing staff training room, located near the Health Center entrance lobby. Using this space – removed from resident living areas - helps us minimize potential resident exposure to the coronavirus by visitors. We are also moving Screening Station #2 from the Health Center lobby to the Community Center (near the Plant Services offices and loading dock), in order to limit foot traffic near the staff training room, thereby further reducing residents' risk of exposure to COVID-19. The physical modifications we propose to make to assure infection control during such visits require approval from DHHS before modification work begins. We expect to offer routine indoor visitations for residents in the Health Center later this month, and will keep residents and family members informed of our progress.

Closing Image

“Busy” bee - busy at work on a coneflower in a staff member’s garden.

